50. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 49 wherein said isolate is capable of stimulating an immune response in humans and primates against at least one glycoprotein on HIV-1 while not substantially reducing proliferative responses and cytokine production to a mitogen in said humans and primates.

66. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 49 wherein the HIV-1 isolate is recognized by an antibody to a glycoprotein of HIV-1, and is capable of inducing an immune response to at least one of the *gag*, *pol* or *env* proteins.

67. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 66 wherein said glycoprotein is at least one of gp41-45, gp120 or gp160.

123. (Amended) The method of claim 49, wherein said isolate of HIV-1 is selected from the group of viruses consisting of V94101706, V941031169, and V95031022.

126. (Amended) A method for vaccinating an individual against the development of AIDS or AIDS related diseases, said method comprising administering to said individual a non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1 in an amount effective to infect target cells and to generate target cells carrying DNA derived from said non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1, wherein said isolate is selected from the group of viruses consisting of V94101706, V941031169, and V95031022.

127. (Amended) The vaccine composition of Claim 85 wherein said deletion results in reduced expression of the *nef* gene product.

128. (Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 85 wherein said deletion results in the expression of a truncated *nef* gene product.

129. (Twice Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 85, wherein said deletion comprises at least 10 nucleotides.

130. (Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 85, wherein the HIV-1 isolate is recognized by an antibody to a glycoprotein of HIV-1, and is capable of inducing an immune response in humans and primates against at least one glycoprotein on HIV-1 while not substantially reducing proliferative responses and cytokine production to a mitogen in said humans and primates.

131. (Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 130, wherein said isolate is recognized by an antibody to one of gp41-45, gp120, or gp160 of HIV-1.

132. (Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 130, wherein said immune response is against one of the *gag*, *pol* or *env* gene products.

Cont'd.

133. (Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 85, wherein said HIV-1 strain is selected from the group of viruses consisting of V94101706, V941031169, and V95031022.

134. (Twice Amended) A vaccine composition comprising a non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1 and at least one of a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or a diluent, wherein said HIV-1 strain comprises a genomic deletion of at least 10 nucleotides in the region corresponding to nucleotides 9281-9438 of the *nef* gene and U3 long terminal repeat, wherein said nucleotide numbering is based upon HIV-1 strain NL4-3.

135. (Amended) The vaccine composition of claim 134, wherein said HIV strain is recognized by an antibody specific for one of HIV-1 gp41-45, HIV-1 gp120, or HIV-1 gp160, and said HIV strain is capable of stimulating an immune response in humans or primates to at least one of the *gag*, *pol*, or *env* gene product without reducing proliferative responses and cytokine production to a mitogen.

136. (Amended) A vaccine composition comprising a non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1 and at least one of a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or a diluent, wherein said HIV-1 strain is selected from the group of viruses consisting of V94101706, V941031169, and V95031022.

Please add the following claims:

137. A method for inducing in an individual an immune response against HIV-1, comprising administering to said individual a non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1 in an amount effective to infect target cells and to generate target cells carrying DNA derived from said non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1, wherein said isolate comprises a genomic deletion in the region corresponding to nucleotides 9281-9438 of the *nef* gene and U3 long terminal repeat, wherein said nucleotide numbering is based upon HIV-1 strain NL4-3 and said region comprises the nucleotide sequence coding for amino acids 166-206 of the *nef* protein.

138. The method according to claim 137, wherein said isolate is capable of stimulating an immune response in humans and primates against at least one glycoprotein on HIV-1 while not substantially reducing proliferative responses and cytokine production to a mitogen in said humans and primates.

139. The method according to claim 137, wherein the HIV-1 isolate is recognized by an antibody to a glycoprotein of HIV-1, and is capable of inducing an immune response to at least one of the *gag*, *pol* or *env* proteins.

140. The method according to claim 139, wherein said glycoprotein is at least one of gp41-45, gp120 or gp160.

141. The method of Claim 137, wherein said deletion results in reduced expression of the *nef* gene product.

142. The method of claim 137, wherein said deletion results in the expression of a truncated *nef* gene product.

143. The method of claim 137, wherein said deletion comprises at least 10 nucleotides.

144. The method of claim 137, wherein said isolate of HIV-1 is selected from the group of viruses consisting of V94101706, V941031169, and V95031022.

145. An immunogenic composition capable of inducing in an individual an immune response against HIV-1, comprising a non-pathogenic isolate of HIV-1 and at least one of a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or a diluent, wherein said isolate comprises a genomic deletion in the region corresponding to nucleotides 9281-9438 of the *nef* gene and U3 long terminal repeat, wherein said nucleotide numbering is based upon HIV-1 strain NL4-3 and said region comprises the nucleotide sequence coding for amino acids 166-206 of the *nef* protein.

146. The immunogenic composition according to claim 145, wherein said isolate is capable of stimulating an immune response in humans and primates against at least one glycoprotein on HIV-1 while not substantially reducing proliferative responses and cytokine production to a mitogen in said humans and primates.

147. The immunogenic composition according to claim 145, wherein the HIV-1 isolate is recognized by an antibody to a glycoprotein of HIV-1, and is capable of inducing an immune response to at least one of the *gag*, *pol* or *env* proteins.

148. The immunogenic composition according to claim 147, wherein said glycoprotein is at least one of gp41-45, gp120 or gp160.

149. The immunogenic composition according to claim 145, wherein said deletion results in reduced expression of the *nef* gene product.